

Service Date: October 13, 1994

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

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IN THE MATTER of the Application	)	
of Northern Natural Gas Company to	)	DOCKET NO. 94.8.29
Increase Rates and Charges for	)	
Natural Gas Service to its Rural	)	ORDER NO. 5805
Farmstead Customers in Montana	)	

DEFAULT ORDER

On August 1, 1994, Northern Natural Gas Company (Applicant) filed an application with the Montana Public Service Commission for an order authorizing the Applicant to increase its natural gas rates. The Applicant, consistent with the terms and conditions of the "Stipulation and Agreement in Settlement of Ratemaking Proceeding" approved in this Commission's Docket No. 83.9.65, Order No. 5095a, filed a request to increase natural gas rates charged to its rural farmstead customers.

Having considered the application and documentation furnished by the Applicant in support of its application, and deeming itself fully advised in the premises, the Commission makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The calculation of the proposed rate is consistent with the terms and conditions of the aforementioned stipulation approved by the Commission in Order No. 5095a. The proposed rates reflect an increase in the gas-cost component of the rate and the inclusion of administrative expenses (non-gas component).

2. The Applicant alleges that the increased rates will provide sufficient revenue to operate its utility.

3. The Applicant anticipates that the proposed rates will increase its annual revenues by approximately \$8,427.

4. The Applicant provided notice to each of its rural farmstead customers of its intent to increase natural gas rates.

5. The Applicant's request to increase rates to its rural farmstead customers should be granted.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Applicant, Northern Natural Gas Company, is a public utility as defined in Section 69-3-101, MCA. The Montana Public Service Commission properly exercises jurisdiction over the Applicant's rates and service pursuant to Section 69-3-102, MCA.

2. The rates and rate structure approved in this order are just and reasonable. Section 69-3-201, MCA.

#### ORDER

1. Northern Natural Gas Company is authorized to implement a rate of \$1.8676 per mcf of gas sold.

2. The rate approved herein shall become effective for services rendered on and after October 11, 1994.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION at Helena, Montana on this 11th day of October, 1994, by a 5 to 0 vote.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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BOB ANDERSON, Chairman

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BOB ROWE, Vice Chairman

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DAVE FISHER, Commissioner

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NANCY McCAFFREE, Commissioner

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DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kathlene M. Anderson  
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

NOTE: Any interested party may request that the Commission reconsider this decision. A motion to reconsider must be filed within ten (10) days. See 38.2.4806, ARM.